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(S) NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

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18 October 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR, IC STAFF (LT GENERAL WILSON)

SUBJECT: Omnibus NSCID

I have reviewed the most recent draft of the Omnibus NSCID and believe it to be a substantial improvement over earlier efforts. However, I have a concern which I would like to share with you. In the section on national reconnaissance activities, there are two paragraphs which may not be entirely appropriate. The first specifically identifies space reconnaissance, and the second alludes to other national activities without specificity. I believe these references may bring undue attention to both the National Reconnaissance Program and the Navy special program.

I therefore suggest that in the Omnibus NSCID, the subparts of paragraph 10 be consolidated into one paragraph which discusses the national reconnaissance activities generically with respect to their philosophy and direction. Thus, more flexibility will be provided to those who will be in positions to respond to Congressional or other inquiries pertaining to these activities. Space reconnaissance then could be used as the example, if necessary.

I would appreciate your taking this into consideration before making a final draft Omnibus NSCID.

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cc: Dr. Hall, ASD(I)
Mr. Colby, CIA

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CORONA

FOR DR FLAX FROM GENERAL MARTIN
DELIVERY AT 0800 FRIDAY 8 APRIL.

1. REFERENCE YOUR 4 APR MEMORANDUM ON CORONA MANAGEMENT [REDACTED] 16-66.
2. IN VIEW OF THE ESTABLISHED STATUS OF THE CORONA PROJECT AS DISTINCT FROM THE INITIATION OF AN ENTIRELY NEW PROJECT I BELIEVE THAT YOUR PROPOSED MEMORANDUM FOR THE NRP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IS A VERY REASONABLE APPROACH.
3. I INDORSE THE PROPOSAL AS A WHOLE, BUT REQUEST YOUR CONSIDERATION OF TWO CHANGES:

A. IF THE CORONA OPERATIONS COMMAND POST AT THE [REDACTED] TO FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY, IT SHOULD BE ADEQUATELY STAFFED WITH ALL NECESSARY PERSONNEL AND REQUIRED INFORMATION AND BE THE ONLY POINT OF WEST COAST CONTACT FOR THE SATELLITE OPERATIONS CENTER DURING THE ACTUAL CONDUCT OF CORONA MISSIONS. THE PAYLOAD SUB-ASSEMBLY PROJECT OFFICE PERSONNEL AND CONTRACTORS REPRESENTATIVES STATIONED AT THE COMMAND POST SHOULD NORMALLY ACCOMPLISH THEIR FUNCTIONS AND ANALYSIS DURING CORONA MISSIONS IN THIS COMMAND POST, UTILIZING OTHER WEST COAST FACILITIES AS NECESSARY. I RECOMMEND THAT THE WORDING OF THE FIRST PARAGRAPH AT THE TOP OF PAGE SIX BE CHANGED TO MAKE THIS CLEAR BY DELETING THE LAST SENTENCE AND ADDING "ALL PAYLOAD FUNCTIONS AND ANALYSES WILL NORMALLY BE ACCOMPLISHED IN THE CORONA COMMAND POST DURING CORONA MISSION. THE SATELLITE OPERATIONS CENTER IN THE PENTAGON WILL NORMALLY DEAL PRINCIPALLY AND DIRECTLY WITH THE CORONA COMMAND POST DURING CORONA MISSIONS."

B. THE STRICT PREOCCUPATION OF THE SPD AND HIS SE/TD CONTRACTOR CONCERNING ENGINEERING IN THE PAYLOAD AREA IS NOT REALISTIC AND IS INCONSISTENT WITH THE SPD RESPONSIBILITY FOR OVERALL SYSTEMS ENGINEERING AND DEFINITION OF INTERFACES. I AGREE THAT NEITHER THE SPD NOR HIS SE/TD CONTRACTOR SHOULD GIVE ANY TECHNICAL DIRECTION OR INSTRUCTION TO THE PAYLOAD SUB-ASSEMBLY PROJECT OFFICE CONTRACTORS. I ALSO AGREE THAT THE SPD DIRECTION TO THE PAYLOAD SUB-ASSEMBLY PROJECT OFFICE WILL CONCERN ONLY OVERALL SYSTEM ENGINEERING, INTEGRATION (INCLUDING MASTER SYSTEM SPECIFICATIONS), OVERALL SYSTEM MASTER PLAN

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NING, PROGRAMMING, AND BUDGETING, PREPARATION OF THE SYSTEM FOR LAUNCH, LAUNCH ACTIVITIES, MISSION OPERATIONS AND CAPSULE RECOVERIES, AS SPECIFIED IN THE THIRD PARAGRAPH ON PAGE FOUR. HOWEVER, THE DEFINITION OF INTERFACES REQUIRES ENGINEERING ANALYSIS OF ALL ASPECTS OF THE SYSTEM. THEREFORE, THE SPD AND HIS SE/TO CONTRACTOR SHOULD NOT BE PROHIBITED FROM MAKING ANY ENGINEERING ANALYSIS; THE RESTRICTION SHOULD BE ON DIRECTION WHICH MAY BE ISSUED, NOT ON ENGINEERING ANALYSES WHICH MAY BE MADE. I STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT THE WORDING OF THE FOLLOWING REFERENCED PARTS BE CHANGED TO MAKE THIS CLEAR:

(1) REFERENCE LAST PARAGRAPH ON PAGE FOUR: DELETE "SYSTEMS ENGINEERING" FROM THE FIRST SENTENCE.

(2) REFERENCE SECOND PARAGRAPH ON PAGE FIVE: DELETE "AUTHORIZED NOR" FROM THE FIRST SENTENCE AND EXTEND THE SENTENCE BY ADDING "EXCEPT (2) FOR THE PURPOSES OF OVERALL SYSTEMS ENGINEERING, INTEGRATION, AND THE DEFINITION OF INTERFACES."

(3) REFERENCE FOURTH PARAGRAPH ON PAGE SIX: DELETE ALL AFTER THE COMMA IN THE SECOND SENTENCE, AND SUBSTITUTE "BUT SHALL EXERCISE TECHNICAL INFLUENCE OR JUDGEMENTS OVER MATTERS INTERNAL TO THE PAYLOAD SUB-ASSEMBLY ONLY IN PROVIDING RELATED ADVICE AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO THE SPD CONCERNING HIS ASSIGNED RESPONSIBILITIES FOR OVERALL SYSTEMS ENGINEERING, INTEGRATION, AND DEFINITION OF INTERFACES."

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